

MEET OUR ANIMALS

Introducing: Our Sheep



At Diamond Forest Cottages we have 3 different breeds of sheep: Merino, Dorper and Damara. We have one Damara sheep named Mulberry. You can tell her apart because she is the only adult sheep with a tail. Damara's make very good mothers, don't need shearing as their fleece just falls out in summer and are bred as a meat sheep.

We have one full bred Merino here named Boss- and yes she is a little bossy. Merinos are bred for their fleece and have a very good reputation for fine soft fleece. This means that Boss needs to be shorn once a year. Boss and Mulberry came to us about five years ago after her previous owners had to move off their farm and into town. They couldn't take their pet sheep with them and wanted them to go to a good home. Their original owners had stayed her and liked that all of our animals were well fed, well looked after and happy and they asked if we would take Mulberry and Boss to live on our farm.

The third breed of sheep we have at Diamond Forest Farm Stay are Dorpers. Dorpers are all of our sheep with a white body and a black head. Our Ram- MR T- is a Dorper. Dorpers are a South African sheep also bred for meat and don't need shearing. They are a very fast growing sheep and tolerate Australian conditions very well.

Did you know?

- If you look at the different types of sheep they all have different looking faces.
- They also have different types of fleece. Touch their fleece and you will see that Boss feels very different to Mulberry and Mulberry feels very different to the Dorpers.
- Sheep only have teeth on their bottom jaw; like alpacas and goats. This makes them perfect for chewing grass
- Some people think sheep have four stomachs. Actually they have one stomach with four parts: the rumen, reticulum, omasum, and abomasum.
- Female sheep are called Ewes, males are called Rams, desexed males are called wethers and babies are called lambs.

Our Secret

Every year we have new lambs born at Diamond Forest Farm Stay. With sheep twins are very common but they aren't always identical. In 2017 we had two sets of twins. Twin boys and twin girls. Our twin boys looked very different to each other. One was black and the other one was white!

